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OUR AIMS FOR THE NEW YEAR
(Nashu zadachi v novom godu)

K. S. Petrovskiy

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OUR AIMS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Prof. K. S. Petrovskiy (Moscow)

The past year, 1971, was marked by the most important event of our time--the XXIV Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Discussion of the draft of Directives of the XXIV Congress, which has received nation-wide approval, and succeeding decisions made by the XXIV Congress have been the basis of the activity of the editorial board and the journal as a whole throughout 1971. The editorial in the June issue, "Tasks of hygienists in the light of the decision of the XXIV Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union," defined the basic tasks of hygienists directed toward the most effective realization of the aims of the ninth five-year plan.

The April issue presented the editorial of Academician of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR F. G. Krotkov, "Hygienic aspects of the 9th 5-year plan for the development of the national economy of the USSR (1971-1975)." The article pointed out the grandiose aspects of the development of numerous hygienic measures directed toward raising the level of the health of the population of this country.

The editorial of Corresponding Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR S. N. Cherkinskiy, "Scientific and technical progress and hygienic science," (No. 7, 1971) was based on materials from the XXIV Congress.

The aims of hygienic science and sanitary practice in the light of decisions of the XXIV Congress were defined in the editorial in the September issue of our magazine (author, Prof. F. G. Krotkov).

In the October issue the editorial, "Decisions of the XXIV Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union--in practice" (author, Prof. B. D. Petrov), dealt with the work of hygienists and sanitarians in new conditions, characterized by the most extensive possibilities for the most effective fulfillment of hygienic requirements in all areas of construction, in industry and

agriculture, in the area of protecting the health of the population of this country.

The editorial board of the journal will in the future deal widely with questions on the realization of decisions made by the XXIV Congress. Materials reflecting the experience of the most effective work of hygienists, sanitarians and the sanitary-epidemiological service as a whole in improving the environment and other sanitation measures will be especially welcome in 1972 and succeeding years.

Public health care has always been an object of attention and concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet government. An indication of this is the number of important resolutions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Council of Ministers of the USSR, directed toward strengthening Soviet public health care and increasing protection of the national health. These very important documents include the resolutions of the Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, "Measures for the further improvement of medical service and protection of the health of the population of the USSR" (1960) and "Measures for the further improvement of public health care and the development of medical science in the country" (1968). The most important government act, directed toward strengthening national public health care was the public health law, adopted by the VII Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, 19 Dec. 1969, and implemented in 1970. These very important documents and the measures they defined were a major requisite for new advances and development of Soviet public health care, including successful activities of hygienists, sanitarians and the sanitary-epidemiological service as a whole. These resolutions and the public health law opened up vast opportunities for effective realization of hygienic requirements, effective preventive and current sanitary inspection. Resolutions of the XXIV Congress confirmed health protection principles and made it possible to press even more for realization of hygienic requirements to protect the environment, air basins, reservoirs, etc.

In 1972, hygienists and sanitarians will be required to liven up all areas of their activity. The offensive character of meeting modern hygienic needs should become even more apparent in practice. A great deal of attention

must be given to hygienic science, where passivity and constancy of facts must give place to positive actions, greater relevancy and verification of the effectiveness of accepted attitudes. In the new year the receipt of materials summarizing success in various areas of hygienic science and practice will be extremely welcome. Generalized data on the effectiveness and efficiency of practical applications of hygienic standardization, carried out in such large scale by hygienists in recent years, will also be desirable.

The editorial board of the journal will in the new year primarily publish articles summing up many years of scientific research dealing with hygienic problems and reflecting our achievements in the development of each of these problems. As in the past, presenting practical experience of hygienists and sanitarians will remain important; we shall increase publication of data concerning the control and improvement of sanitary-epidemiological service in the provinces.

All these materials are especially needed for publication in the current year. 1972 is an extremely significant one for all hygienists, sanitarians and the sanitary-epidemiological service as a whole, as this year the Soviet sanitary organization will be 50 years old. In connection with this, the editorial board calls on readers of the journal, workers in scientific hygienic institutions and sanitary-epidemiological stations and all sanitarians to respond to this important event for the sanitary-epidemiological service, to share on the pages of this magazine the experience of their work and to reflect in our press those great achievements which the sanitary organization has achieved in 50 years.

During the past year the publication of articles dealing with the training of sanitarians has been considerably increased. Nearly every issue of the journal included an article on this subject. Of the articles dealing with improving the training of sanitarians we must first note that of the Ukrainian scientists and hygienists N. I. Barannik, I. P. Barchenko, R. D. Gabovich, Ye. I. Goncharuk, Yu. D. Gots, I. N. Margunov, S. S. Poznanskiy, I. I. Slepushkina, I. M. Trakhtenberg and G. Kh. Shakhbazyan, "Prospects for future improvement in the training of doctors, hygienists and epidemiologists" (No. 7, 1971). We must also note the article of a group of scientists of the state Inspection,

Ministry of Higher and Middle Special Education L. A. Aleksandrov, K. S. Petrovskiy, Yu. P. Sergeyev, B. P. Belov and G. R. Mutovina, "Training sanitary specialists to the level of current tasks" (No. 6, 1971) and that of V. I. Petrov, "Training sanitary specialists" (No. 2, 1971).

Directly connected with improving the training of hygienists is the problem of improving teaching staffs in sanitary-hygiene departments. The question is dealt with in the article of T. A. Kozlova, "Working with students in the department of higher education of teachers in hygiene departments."

Great importance must be attached to improving the skills of teachers. The editorial board will gladly feature articles dealing with improvement measures which would provide all teachers in hygiene disciplines of all sanitary hygiene faculties in the country with the best forms of retraining. It is very important to determine the most currently acceptable retraining centers and equip them with the necessary apparatus and new techniques. It seems to us that it is first of all absolutely necessary that such a retraining center have a complete complex of all machines which can be used in the educational process; these are primarily machines connected with programming control (to a certain degree) and training.

We will gladly feature articles which will help solve the problem of the most rapid introduction into practice of programmed control elements, acceptable for medical schools.

Another important question is the hygienic training of therapeutic-prophylactic specialists. Here in the USSR, where the basic principle of Soviet medicine is its prophylactic aspect, sufficiently comprehensive prophylactic training is evidently necessary in medical schools. Considering hygiene as the basis of all prophylactic disciplines, teaching it in medical schools is an extremely responsible job. A number of articles have dealt with this problem in the past year: R. D. Gabovich, Yu. D. Gots, "Methodological conference of the leading hygiene departments of medical institutes" (No. 4, 1971); G. I. Rumyantsev, Ye. P. Vishnefskaya, T. A. Bystrova and N. N. Belyaeva, "Organization of the educational process and ways of increasing the effectiveness of teaching hygiene in the medical department" (No. 5, 1971).

The solution of problems posed by the XXIV Congress of the Communist Party

of the Soviet Union in the ninth 5-year plan and the whole course of construction and development in all areas of industry and agriculture require the active participation of hygienists and their consultative help.

In connection with this, it is extremely important to strengthen the front line of sanitary-epidemiological service, especially in agricultural areas and worker settlements, including territorially remote regions, with well-trained sanitary-hygienic specialists. Therefore, one of the most important jobs, it seems to us, is increasing the skills of the general sanitarian. Evidently the central figure in the next few years will be the highly-trained general sanitarian. Of course, this must also be combined with the training of highly specialized hygienists to an extent completely satisfying the requirements of public health.

In conclusion, we note that the XVI All-Union Congress of Hygienists and Sanitarians will take place in 1972. This important event must receive adequate coverage in our press, including the pages of this journal. The editorial board will take all measures to publish material dedicated to the XVI All-Union Conference of Hygienists and Sanitarians in the shortest possible time.